

SCHILLER CONFERENCE PRESENTS A NEW PARADIGM

Using the SDI Principle Today To Save Mankind

by Nancy Spannaus

March 25—The 30th anniversary of President Ronald Reagan’s announcement of the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), on March 23, 1983, finds mankind at a crossroads, still threatened by the danger of thermonuclear war and economic-strategic crisis that led Lyndon LaRouche to propose that solution decades ago. With that reality in mind, the Schiller Institute, founded by Helga Zepp-LaRouche in 1984, convened a conference in Northern Virginia on that day in 2013, to deliberate on “A New Paradigm To Save Mankind; the Need for the Principle of the SDI Today.”

Zepp-LaRouche, whose keynote is printed below, began her presentation: “I would really emphasize that the continued existence of civilization depends on two preconditions: One is the immediate—and I really mean immediate, that is, in the next days, or at maximum, weeks—implementation of Glass-Steagall. And the second condition is to finally implement the Strategic Defense of the Earth, in the tradition of the SDI.”

The conference, which drew approximately 350 people, primarily from the East Coast of the United States, featured two panel discussions, the first, on the need for a transition from the SDI to the Strategic Defense of Earth (SDE), and the second, on the solution to the economic crisis: Glass-Steagall or hyperinflation. As a foretaste of the new spirit of Classical beauty and optimism which the new paradigm must embody, the conference also featured several stirring Classical mu-

sical presentations, from the works of Beethoven, Bach, and Mozart.

From the SDI to the SDE

Only the LaRouche political movement, which fought for and spawned the SDI, could bring together the panel on this issue. After Zepp-LaRouche’s keynote, *EIR* Counterintelligence Editor Jeffrey Steinberg presented the inside history of the program’s initiation (see below). Lyndon LaRouche himself then took the stage to make brief remarks about the necessity (see below)—while trying to bring an end to the process leading to thermonuclear war—of moving to the urgent mission of organizing a planetary defense, against “missiles” being thrown by the Solar System itself against the Earth.

Three presentations followed which dealt with some of the technical and political aspects of SDI implementation. The first was by Frank Cevasco, who was in the Office of the Secretary of Defense during the time of the Reagan announcement and its aftermath; the second by Kevin Zondervan, an aerospace engineer at a major aerospace company, who gave a presentation authorized by the Missile Defense Agency, on the public domain information on the Administration’s Ballistic Missile Defense System; and the third by Ben Deniston of LaRouchePAC, who has helped lead the movement’s work on defense against asteroids.



EIRNS/Suzanne Klebe

The Schiller Institute conference concluded with a beautiful Classical music concert. Here, a section of the chorus and orchestra perform J.S. Bach's "Magnificat in D," BWV 243.

International Reverberations

The Committee on Implementation of the International Global Monitoring Aerospace System (IGMASS) project, a Russian initiative for defense of Earth from seismic, weather, and space threats, sent greetings to the conference in the form of a Russian TV feature on IGMASS, including an interview with the committee's chairman, Prof. Anatoli Perminov (former head of Roscosmos, the

Russian space agency). In a letter thanking the Schiller Institute conference organizers for giving "encouragement" to the IGMASS project, Perminov wrote, "We believe that realization of the Project in its pilot version will convince the world community [of the] feasibility of the high objectives of IGMASS, aimed at gradual development of a unified global security field with respect to global natural and man-made threats in the framework of a new paradigm of international cooperation, on the way to overcome existing tension and conflicts."

The discussion period after this panel provided an opportunity to underscore that today's Cheney-Obama vintage global Ballistic Missile Defense System is not a realization of the vision of LaRouche and Reagan for strategic cooperation against the threat of thermonuclear war (as had been suggested in some of the presentations). The BMDS does represent a threat to the strategic nuclear deterrent forces of Russia and China, something which would not have been the case with implementation of the full SDI conception of strategic cooperation, including "open laboratory" sharing of technology. An number of post-Soviet Russian offers for strategic defense cooperation have been rejected or ignored in the West, including Moscow's 1993 "Trust" proposal for U.S.-Russian experiments on anti-missile "plasma weapon"

technologies, and then-Prime Minister Putin's 2007 Kennebunkport overture for joint operation of anti-



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis

Frank Cevasco



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis

Kevin Zondervan



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis

Benjamin Deniston



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis

Bruce Fein



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Rep. Walter Jones

Stopping the Hyperinflationary Blowout

The second panel of the conference featured presentations on LaRouche’s program to stop the breakdown crisis, and the organizing drive now underway in the United States to implement that program. One special contribution to the panel was a video address by Rep. Walter Jones (R-N.C.), who urged the assembled to mobilize for the current House bill which would reinstate Glass-Steagall, HR 129, a bill of which he is a co-sponsor along with 39 others. He also addressed the strategic crisis, by presenting his initiative demanding that Congress declassify 28 pages of the 9/11 Commission report, which would reveal that Saudi Arabia was the author of the devastating 2001 attacks on the United States.

After a keynote by *EIR* Ibero-American editor Dennis Small, which stressed the crucial economic parameter of the productive powers of labor as the means for evaluating an economy’s performance and poten-

missile radars and other systems in Eurasia.

The conference participants also heard greetings read from the first spokesman from the developing sector to endorse LaRouche’s beam weapons proposal in the 1980s, Gen. Hector Fautario of Argentina (see box).

Argentine General Backed Beam Weapon Defense

Brig. Gen. Héctor Fautario was the commander-in-chief of the Argentine Air Force from 1973-75, and was removed from that post in late 1975, because he refused to go along with the military coup against the government of Isabel Perón, which, in 1976, brought in the “Chicago Boys” school of British liberal economics.

In late 1983, in the months leading up to Lyndon LaRouche’s historic June 1984 visit to Argentina—which included a one-hour meeting with then-President Raúl Alfonsín, as well as seminars on the SDI with the country’s top military and scientific elite—Fautario became the first spokesman in the developing sector to endorse beam weapons, and the SDI proposal that President Reagan had presented to the world on March 23 of that year.

On March 19, Fautario sent his greetings to the March 23, 2013 Schiller Institute conference on the SDI, with best wishes for its success. He said that “these last 30 years have passed, but what we said then, remains totally applicable.”

In an Oct. 28, 1983 interview with LaRouche’s *EIR*, Fautario said:

“I think that the development of beam weapons . . . is tremendously important. I could compare it directly with the development achieved by the United States when it launched its famous NASA program to land on the Moon and reach other planets. It involves a huge investment which clearly will lead to the development not only of all kinds of weapons, but also civilian benefits, such as in the field of medicine. . . .

“It would also be useful to bring Argentine ‘brains’ back into the country to create awareness and develop the civilian side, at the same time that we develop the military strategic side. We sincerely believe that in these fields, we can then radiate out and spread these technologies all over Latin America, just as we are doing in the nuclear area. . . .

“There is something which the IMF and other institutions in the world which grant credit should take into account. Our countries cannot negotiate with the hunger and poverty of our people. . . . Everything has a limit. What I recommend is that this limit not be passed. We like to say that a cord can be stretched, but must not be snapped. I think we are at the snapping point.”



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis
Dennis Small



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis
State Rep. Thomas Jackson



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis
James Benham

tial, two state leaders presented reports on their battles for Glass-Steagall. State Rep. Thomas Jackson of Alabama, the chairman of the Alabama House Democratic Caucus, and James Benham, president of the Indiana Farmers Union, gave lively accounts of the conditions they face in organizing for a Glass-Steagall-led solution.

Concluding the session were two LaRouche movement organizers actively involved in the fight in Washington, D.C. to pass LaRouche’s program: Michael Kirsch, who authored the LaRouchePAC’s latest proposal for a new National Bank, and Paul Gallagher, Economics Editor of *EIR*, who has been intimately involved in the drive for passing Glass-Steagall in Congress.



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis
Michael Kirsch

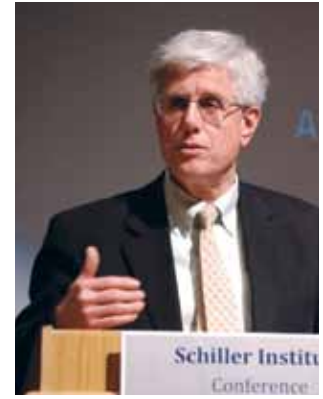
Gallagher, who, as head of the Fusion Energy Foundation, also spearheaded the drive for the SDI in 1983, provided a crucial reflection comparing the fights then and now. Three months before Reagan announced the SDI, he said, everyone said it would never be done; today, “popular wisdom” in Washington

also says Glass-Steagall will never be restored.

With the proper fight by a leadership which knows what is at stake and can convey it, that popular wisdom will be proven wrong again.

The conference concluded with an evening concert, which uplifted the participants for the fight ahead.

Videos from the conference will be made available at www.schillerinstitute.org, and *EIR* will be providing further coverage of the speeches in upcoming issues.



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis
Paul Gallagher